

## HELD UP ON HIS WAY HOME.

A BROOKLYN BREWER FOUGHT HIS ASSAILANTS WITH A KNIFE.

He Had \$800. Besides Jewelry, and He Thinks the Highwaymen Had Learned That He Customarily Went Home by the Route Where They Hit Saturday Night.

For some weeks past a gang of tough young men have been terrorizing the people living in the vicinity of Halsey street and Wyckoff avenue, Brooklyn, and on Saturday night last five of the members brutally beat Philip Leibinger, a wealthy Brooklyn brewer, as he was making his way to his brewery along the Manhattan Beach Railroad track. The object of the attack was robbery, Mr. Leibinger had about \$800 in bills in his pocket, and valuable jewelry. He fought for his property, and although beaten so badly that he was obliged to remain in bed until Wednesday, he lost nothing.

The neighborhood where the gang operates is said to be only in spots, and the residents have been using the open lots for short cuts to their homes. Up to a few weeks ago it was safe to do this; than a crowd of tramps and loafers began to hang out in the vicinity and complaints of being held up began to come to the precinct station house. The gang generally limited its demand to beer money, but unfeathered with the police, it has grown bolder, until now it is unsafe to traverse even some of the streets in the neighborhood after dark, and the residents are thinking of appealing to the Police Board for protection.

Mr. Leibinger sent his family to Chicago in August to visit relatives, and closed up his home. He fitted up apartments in the rear of his brewery for himself, and has lived there. To reach those rooms it is convenient for him to leave a Myrtle avenue trolley car at Wyckoff avenue and follow the old Manhattan Beach Railroad track from Myrtle avenue to the rear of the brewery. He thinks that the members of the gang have noticed that he took this route homeward as a regular thing, and lay in wait for him. About 9 o'clock Saturday night he started along his customary route, and was scarcely a hundred yards from the brewery when two men rose and placed themselves before him and demanded his money. Mr. Leibinger is 57 years old, six feet tall, heavily built and very strong. He broke away from the men, pulled out a jackknife and ordered the men to step aside. Immediately three other men stepped from behind a pillar of railroad track, and one of the men struck him in the back of the head with what was a sandbag. The others closed around him, and he was punched from all sides at once. Two of the men jumped on him. When he felt some one trying to get to the pocket where he had his money, he pulled himself together and began to fight again.

Getting his right hand free, he swung it around, and ran his knife up to the hand into the side of one of the men who was sitting on him. The man shrieked and rolled over to the ground. The others picked up their injured companion and started across lots with him. That was the last Mr. Leibinger saw of them. It took him a half an hour to crawl along the railroad track to the saloon of J. P. Bridg, 200 yards away, and when he got there he fell over on the floor. He was revived by Mr. Bridg, to whom he told his story. He turned his money and jewelry over to Bridg, and started for the Hamburg avenue police station, where he reported his hold-up to Sergeant McAnany. He was delirious at the time and told such an incoherent story that the sergeant thought he was crazy. He said that he had stabbed a man who had stolen \$400 from him and seemed to think that he ought to be locked up for felonious assault. His friends came to the station house later and straightened the matter out, and two detectives were put on the case. Nothing resulted from their investigations until two days later, when they arrested two tramps who readily established their innocence.

Mr. Leibinger was taken to his room in the Hotel New York, the Hottestel of 300 Wyckoff avenue, found him in a bad condition. His eyes were blackened, his face was cut and bruised, and the back of his head was swollen from the blows he had received. His body was bruised. He imagined that he was fighting, and it was with difficulty that he was kept in bed. His condition was so serious that his family was telephoned for and they arrived home on Monday. After that Mr. Leibinger began to improve and yesterday he was able to attend to his business.

The police of the Hamburg avenue station tried to keep the assault on Mr. Leibinger quiet, and as far as could be learned yesterday made no report to Police Headquarters, which is a violation of one of the rules of the department. No one could be found at Police Headquarters yesterday who had heard of the assault on Mr. Leibinger until it was made known to them by reporters.

## SHERIFF AT FORT GEORGE.

Trolley Line Changes Interfered with Business at the Up-Town Resort.

The Sheriff has received an execution against Schmitz's Fort George Casino (corporation) at Amsterdam avenue and 104th street, for \$800 in favor of Hartman, Goldsmith & Co., for whiskey sold to the concern. When the Sheriff went there to make a levy he was informed that George Ehret, the brewer, holds a chattel mortgage on the place for \$25,000, therefore no keeper was put in charge. The company was incorporated in 1884 with a capital stock of \$75,000, which was increased in 1895 to \$175,000. John F. Schulteis, Jr., is president. He said yesterday that \$128,000 had been invested in the place, but business had been dull this summer because people could not get there readily on account of changes being made on the trolley line. He believes that if the creditors will be lenient and that when the trolley line is finished next year, the place will doubtless pay handsomely and all creditors will get their money.

## CIAFLINS MAKE A CHANGE.

They Withdraw the Force of Men Who Have Been Travelling for Them.

The H. C. Claffin Company has withdrawn all the men who have been travelling for it and has abolished its "Travellers' Bureau." The company has never had a travelling department such as most of the large wholesale houses have; but a few years ago it sent out a number of men to travel about the country, not as salesmen, but to talk. Their principal object was to induce the merchants to visit New York, and in that they were missionaries for all the business of the city. Mr. John C. Eames of the company said yesterday that these men had covered the country pretty thoroughly, and that their work was done so they had been withdrawn.

## BOOSING CHICAGO TAX BILLS.

Dry Goods and Department Stores Get Dynastic Treatment.

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—The largest increase of taxable personality made yet by the Board of Review in one day was derived to-day from dry goods and department stores, coal dealers and the leather trade, the amount being \$8,000,000. Of this sum the share of the dry goods and department stores was \$6,370,500, coal firms \$700,000 and the leather trade \$700,000. The hardest hit of all is the firm of Marshall Field & Co., whose assessment was increased from \$5,111,748 as fixed by the assessors to \$10,000,000.

**Senator Beveridge to Report to McKinley.**

Chicago, Aug. 31.—Senator Albert J. Beveridge arrived in Chicago this morning on the steamer Manitou from Mackinac. The Senator is back from the Philippines, China and Japan. He is understood to intend keeping silence as to his views and information until he has communicated with the Administration. Mrs. Beveridge was with him throughout his travels in the Orient.

## CONVENT KEEPS THE GIRL.

Cuban Mother's Futile Suit for Custody of Her Young Daughter.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 31.—A curious case, the outgrowth of the Cuban revolution, was decided by Judge St. Paul, of the Civil District Court this morning. It was a habeas corpus proceeding brought by Mrs. Adolma Prieto of Cienfuegos, to get her daughter, Maria Teresa, 17 years old, from the Sisters of Mercy. Mrs. Prieto was a refugee from Cuba in the early days of the Cuban War. She brought her family to New Orleans, where she placed Maria Teresa in the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy. She herself returned to Cuba, recovered her property and became wealthy again. She then sought to recover her daughter, but the girl had become a novice of the order and wanted to become a nun. The question before the Court was whether a girl of 17 could decide her own future and abandon home to become a sister four years hence. Judge St. Paul denied the demand of Mrs. Prieto and gave the girl to the guardianship of the sister superior. An appeal was had to the Louisiana Supreme Court. A large number of other Cuban girls were brought over to New Orleans during the revolution and placed in convents.

## REAL ESTATE NEWS.

The majority of the sales at private contract reported yesterday involved small residences and unimproved lots in the upper part of Manhattan and in the Bronx. No sales of particular importance were reported. In the auction room one offering was adjourned until Sept. 6, and the other went to an outsider. There are no offerings scheduled for to-day in the salesroom. As no sales are held in the room on Saturdays, there will be no offerings until next Tuesday, Monday being a legal holiday.

Koster, Bial & Co. have given a mortgage of \$200,000 to George White, as trustee, on their theatre building on Thirty-fifth and Thirty-fourth streets. The mortgage secures a bond.

J. Edgar Leavay was the broker in the sale of No. 77 Riverside Drive reported below.

Riverside Drive has had its fair share of the little activity which has prevailed in the market for the past two months. It was also conspicuous in the winter's activity and has acquired a reputation as a good site for real estate operations.

## Private Sales.

Mrs. Hellman had the four-story private residence at 204 West 100th street. H. D. Hooper has sold the four-story brick and stone dwelling on lot 201X100, No. 348 West Twenty-eighth street.

The River Building Company has sold the five-story dwelling, 24-1/2x84, No. 77 Riverside Drive.

John P. Ladd has bought five lots on the north side of 137th street, 400 feet east of Washington Avenue.

J. C. Anderson has bought No. 2100 Washington Street.

George A. Hewitt has bought No. 588 East 182d street.

## Auction Sales.

At the New York Real Estate Salesroom yesterday, Peter F. Meyer & Co. sold, in foreclosure, the four-story dwelling, on lot 252X100, No. 312 West Twenty-eighth street, to Warren A. Conover for \$10,500.

**Real Estate Transfers.**

Columbus st., w. 12th to 13th st., 76x115, 100, above, and one adjoining all title. John H. Rose to Abraham Felsenberg.

Fleischman st., 44th to Abraham Silberman to Leiberman.

St. Ann's st., 170, 25th to 26th, 100, Fritz Seitz to Leiberman.

Franklin st., 10th to 11th, 100, Edward F. Irwin to John H. Sheran to Edward F. Irwin.

First av., n. 1st to First st., Bertha St. John et al., executors, to John Johnstone.

W. H. Taubert has bought five lots on the north side of 137th street, 400 feet east of Washington Avenue.

H. H. Tamm has bought No. 2100 Washington Street.

John H. Sheran to Louis Gilbert.

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